

## Lawmakers Negotiating Final Funding Bills Now

Reach Out to Your Members on OAA, SHIP, Elder Justice Priorities

October 12, 2017

Both the House and the Senate have considered their FY 2018 funding proposals for the Older Americans Act (OAA) and other aging programs. While federal funding is currently flowing to programs through a continuing resolution (CR), lawmakers have until December 8 to either reach a long-term funding agreement or pass another short-term funding bill.

That means aging advocates have less than two months to respond to funding proposed in the two House and Senate bills and to ensure that the highest possible funding levels prevail for OAA and other critical aging programs.

We need your help! In a very challenging budget year, n4a secured a major advocacy win when lawmakers in the House passed a \$14.2 million increase for Older Americans Act Title III B Supportive Services, but we still need to ensure that increase is reflected in a final bill. Aging advocates must also ensure that the House-passed elimination of the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) and cuts to the Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP) and Elder Justice programs are not reflected in a final bill. Instead, we are asking Congress to, at a minimum, fund SHIP, SCSEP and Elder Justice programs at the Senate proposed levels, which would spare these programs from any cuts over FY 2017.

## Take Action Now:

Contact your Representatives and Senators NOW to advocate for funding for OAA programs and services. We also hope you will engage your grassroots networks and stakeholders in advocating for these programs with your Members of Congress.

Send the letter via fax and email to their DC and district offices. Find that contact information on your Members' websites: www.house.gov and www.senate.gov.